

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 CCO-00 A-01 OPR-02

DHA-02 OC-06 MCT-01 SY-05 USSS-00 SAB-01 /076 W

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O R 152315Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9110

INFO USCINCSO

PANCANAL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PN

SUBJECT: STUDENT DEMONSTRATION WORSENS (NO.2)

1. SCALE OF STUDENT DEMONSTRATION WORSENEED AND SPREAD DURING AFTERNOON. STUDENTS, ALONG WITH LOOTERS, TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE SITUATION, BROKE INTO TWO WAREHOUSES IN VICINITY OF SANTA ANA PLAZA ABOUT 3:30 P.M. ABOUT THE SAME TIME STUDENTS NEAR NATIONAL INSTITUTE BEGAN PELTING NATIONAL GUARD AND GN VEHICLES WITH STONES. GN CLOSED OFF AREA AROUND NATIONAL INSTITUTE AND CENTRAL AVENUE TO ALL TRAFFIC.

2. BY LATE AFTERNOON, AN ESTIMATED 5,000 DEMONSTRATORS, INCLUDING STUDENTS, WORKERS AND HOODS HAD GATHERED AND GROUPS WERE REPORTED LOOTING AND SETTING FIRE TO BUSINESSES ALONG CENTRAL AVENUE. THERE HAS ALSO BEEN ONE UNCONFIRMED REPORT OF POLICEMAN BEING SHOT BY SNIPER HIDDEN IN THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE. AT THIS POINT GN THEN BEGAN TO MOVE IN TO BREAK UP DEMONSTRATION. BY 5:30 P.M. 20-40 PERSONS HAD BEEN ADMITTED TO SANTO TOMAS HOSPITAL WITH INJURIES FROM POLICE CLUBS, ALONG WITH ONE UNCONFIRMED DEATH OF AN OLDER INDIVIDUAL.

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EM GN EFFORTS TO CONTROL SITUATION UNSUCCESSFUL AND POLICE UNITS WERE WITHDRAWN FROM THE AREA. FOURTH RIFLE COMPANY AND RIOT SQUAD DETACHMENT FROM TOCUMEN WERE CALLED IN AT 5:00 P.M. JUST BEFORE 6 P.M. 5 TRUCKLOADS OF TROOPS (ABOUT 100 MEN) IN BATTLE DRESS PASSED EMBASSY ON THE WAY TO AREA OF RIOTS

4. SINCE PREVIOUS WAS WRITTEN, WE HAVE CONFIRMED REPORTS THAT UPON ARRIVAL OF TROOPS IN THE AREA AROUND 6 P.M., STUDENTS DISPERSED AND RIOTING AND DEMONSTRATIONS CEASED. BEST ESTIMATE OF NUMBER OF ARRESTS APPEARS TO BE 100-150. AT LEAST 20 REPORTED HOSPITALIZED. SITUATION IN SANTA ANA AREA IS REPORTED "NEARLY NORMAL" AT NIGHTFALL.

5. FOLLOWING BREAKUP OF DEMONSTRATIONS, RADIO EXITOSA CARRIED A COMMUNIQUE BY A STUDENT GROUP CALLING FOR LARGE STUDENT TURNOUT FOR MASS MEETING TOMORROW. WE UNDERSTAND THE STATION CARRIED THE COMMUNIQUE ONLY AFTER BEING THREATENED WITH VIOLENCE TO FACILITIES BY STUDENTS.

6. GN TROUPS PLAN TO MONITOR UNIVERSITY OF PANAMA LAW SCHOOL STUDENT ELECTIONS WHICH ARE SCHEDULED FOR TONIGHT.

7. WE EXPECT NO MORE TROUBLES TONIGHT, BUT MORNING WILL LIKELY BRING MORE ACTIVITY.
JORDEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRICES, STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: blochd0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976PANAMA06433
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760348-0930
From: PANAMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760958/aaaabxlc.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: blochd0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 JUL 2004 by coburnhl>; APPROVED <28 OCT 2004 by blochd0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STUDENT DEMONSTRATION WORSENS (NO.2)
TAGS: PINT, PN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006